



Attorney's Docket No. 9065-11

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CENTER 1600/2300

In re: Caputo et al.

Serial No.: 10/038,554

Filed: January 2, 2002

For: SYMMETRIC, MONOFUNCTIONALISED POLYMETHINE DYES LABELLING REAGENTS

Group Art Unit: 1626

Confirmation No. 3035

Date: April 14, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Restriction Requirement of March 7, 2003.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 6, without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application.

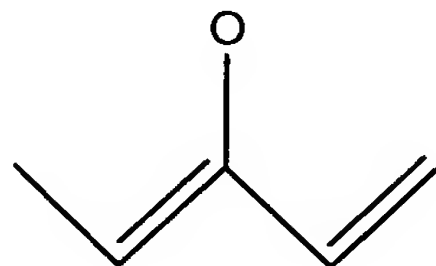
REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of March 7, 2003, Applicants hereby elect Invention III, corresponding to Claims 1-5 and 7, drawn to a symmetric cyanine of formula (I) where X is $C(CH_3)_2$. Applicants also elect without traverse the following species:

A) R_1 is $(CH_2)_nSO_3^-$;

B) R_2 and R_3 are a sulfonic moiety; and

C) Q is



Applicants believe that such species election will not cause an undue searching burden for the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

F. Michael Sajovec

Registration No. 31,793



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on April 14, 2003.

Clara R. Beard